

**8th World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators
Meeting (WTIM-10)**
Geneva, Switzerland, 24 - 26 November 2010



Contribution to WTIM-10 session 5

Document C/25-E
25 November 2010
English

SOURCE: European Commission

TITLE: European Commission Broadband data

European Commission Broadband data

Miguel Gil Tertre
25.11.2010

EC gathers data on the different dimensions of Broadband since 2002

Broadband is a phenomenon with **multiple aspects**.
Current EU data includes:

- Take-up
- Coverage
- Market Shares
- Speed and technology categories
- Retail and wholesale prices
- Mobile broadband

Purposes

- **Regulation** – Telecom framework for electronic communications that looks at competition issues.
- **Benchmarking of ICT policy** – e.g: the current political program in the European Union the **Digital Agenda for Europe** sets out targets that have to be measured

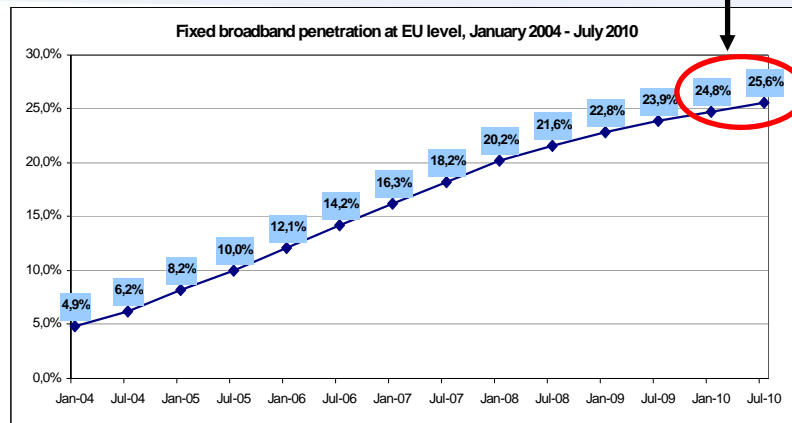


CoCom exercise

- Data from a variety of sources but **official figures** are privileged. External sources are used only when official figures are not available.
- The **regulatory framework** in place entitles the NRAs to ask for data and the operators can not refuse to provide it.
- The **Ministries and NRAs** ask for data to every operator in the national market.
- The **European Commission** aggregates and validates national statistics.



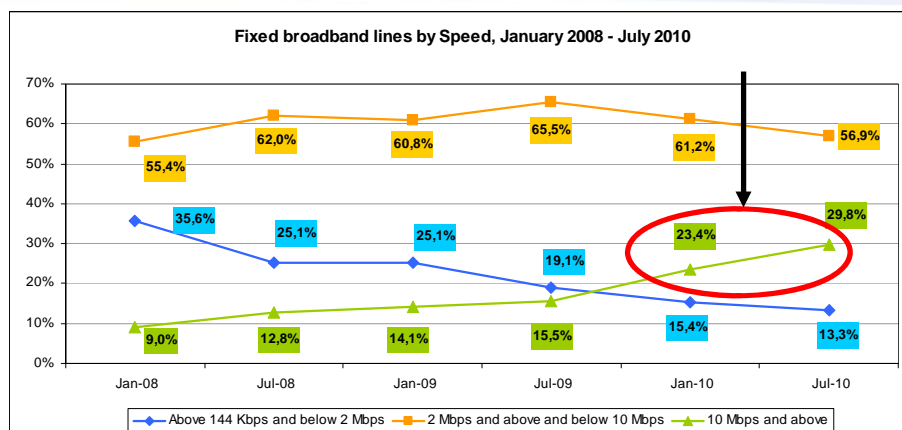
Lowest growth rate ever only +3% in the first half of 2010



February 12, 2010

5

The market concentrates in the move towards higher speeds 30% of lines equal or above 10 Mbps



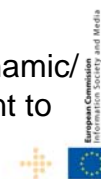
Problems exist

- Some operators still refuse to provide data or claim that it is **confidential**.
- The operators have to **understand the definitions** in a similar manner in every country.
- Some countries have to **adapt their methodologies** and definitions to allow for the benchmarking exercise and it takes time for new indicators.
- The EC has to ensure that the data is comparable.



Several principles in order to design a good indicator

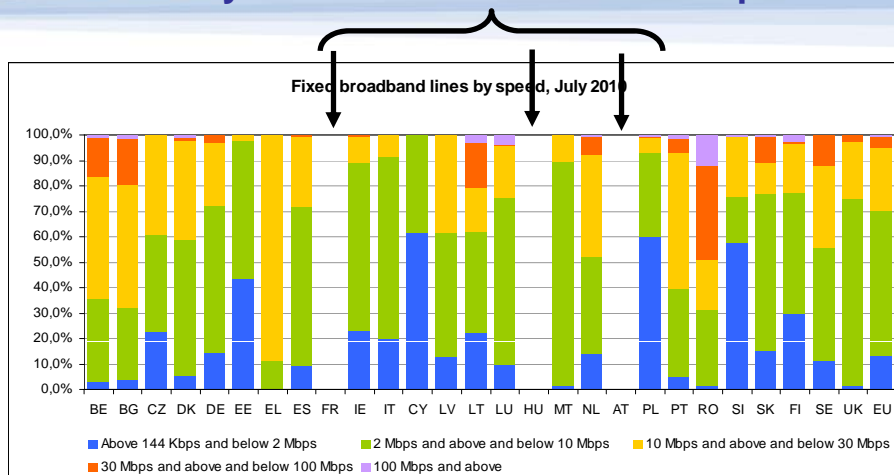
- **Clear** and defined **according to a specific use** (e.g. regulation)
- **Minimize the burden to the operators** (it would not be efficient to ask for information just for the sake of it)
- **Comparable** to allow benchmarking exercises (coordination with other bodies OECD – ITU – FCC necessary)
- As **future proof** as possible: the market is very dynamic/ difficult to have meaningful data over time – important to ensure that time-series are going to be available



Current challenges in the EU

- **NGAs/Very high speed lines** by technology
- **Mobile broadband** - the issue of use through smartphones
- **Bundled offers** – difficulties in comparison and prices

CASE 1: For the first time data on lines above 30 Mbps and 100 Mbps in line with DAE Only 0.5% of the lines ≥ 100 Mbps



**For the first time data on lines
above 30 Mbps and 100 Mbps in line with DAE**

**However data not available for France, Hungary
and Austria.**

Why?

Not included in the Questionnaires sent to
operators?
Confidential?

In any case the data on speeds should not be
confidential as it is technologically neutral and
does not point any specific operator.



**Technological split in the
lines above 30 Mbps**

**Only a few Member States are able to provide
the split between the different technologies:**

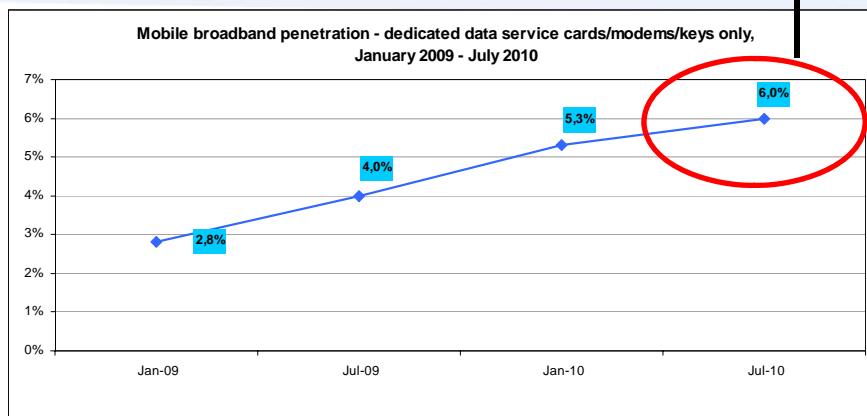
- **15 MS** provide detailed figures on **VDSL**
- **16 MS** provide detailed figures on **FTTH**
- **14 MS** provide figures on **FTTB**
- **17 MS** provide figures on **Cable/Docsis 3.0**

Data is **very interesting and relevant** but not yet
for publication (first graphs should be published for
the January 2011 exercise).

Work will continue inside the CoCom subgroup on
market data.



Case 2: Mobile broadband 50% growth but slowing-down in 1st half 2010



Smartphone use problem

It is relatively easy to capture mobile broadband through dongles/USB keys and dedicated data cards

BUT it is **problematic to define an indicator for the use through smartphones** (defined in terms of access, capacity, ...)



New mobile broadband methodology developed with BEREC

Indicator B.C: Dedicated Data subscriptions for add-on data package to a voice service requiring an additional subscription

“All dedicated data subscriptions have to include a recurrent payment (excluding “pay -as you- go” payment). Contract subscriptions are included automatically. Prepayment subscriptions must have been used in the last 3 months.”

7 MS reported this indicator



New mobile broadband methodology developed with BEREC

Problems probably due to

- late inclusion (if any) of this categories in the questionnaires to operators and,
- understanding of the new definitions as this was the first experience.

The Commission will continue to work with BEREC in the CoCom subgroup to improve such data.



Future steps

- Study on the **Quality of Broadband** to be published in Spring 2011 with key performance indicators such as http download speed, ping performance, DNS lookup time and packet loss. Information on the difference between advertised and effective speed.
- Work on the **availability** and the **openness** of all this public information for third parties.



Thank you!
Questions?



Digital Agenda for Europe

<http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda>

